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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 002135

SIPDIS

DRL/IRF FOR COFSKY; DRL/SEA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/30/2018
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [KIRF](#) [KDEM](#) [EG](#)
SUBJECT: EGYPT REACTS TO 2008 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REPORT

REF: SECSTATE 99226

Classified By: Minister-Counselor for Economic and Political Affairs William R.Stewart for Reasons 1.4(b) and (d). 1.(C) Summary: The release c
2.(SBU) On September 23, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued the GoE's formal response, which reads as follows: "The Spokesman for the Forei
4.(C) Aboulmagd said he had no specific factual criticism of the report. In fact, he praised the report for its objectivity and for excluding u
5.(SBU) According to media reports, on September 22 the quasi-governmental National Council on Human Rights (NCHR) criticized the report for at
8.(C) Local activists generally praised the report. Hossam Baghat, director of the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), an organizat